

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO CINCPAC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2570

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WELLINGTON 0152

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, WS
SUBJECT: WESTERN SAMOAN REQUEST FOR LOGISTICAL ASSISTANCE:
VISIT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH

REF: (A) WELLINGTON 4626 (DTG 130435Z DEC 76)(NOTAL)
(B) CINCPAC (DTG 110200Z DEC 76) NOTAL)

1. ASI EIKENI, MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN SAMOA (GOWS), HAS SENT NEW TELEGRAM REQUESTING AMBASSADOR
TO "ADVANCE OUR PLEA FOR ASSISTANCE TO THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT"
IN MATTER OF OBTAINING TWO VEHICLES FOR VISIT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

2. SUBSEQUENT EXHCANGE OF TELEGRAMS BETWEEN EMBASSY AND U.S.
CONSULAR AGENT IN APIA (WHO IS FATHER-IN-LAW OF ASI) INDICATES
GOWS HAMPERED BY CONFUSION/POOR COORDINATION ON MATTER OF VEHICLES
ACQUISITION AND, UNFORTUNATELY, APPROPRIATE CARS HAVE NOT RPT. NOT
BEEN OBTAINED, CONTRARY TO OUR INFORMATION REPORTED REFTEL A.

3. IN EFFORT TO CLARIFY,EMBOFF TELEPHONED U.S. CONSULAR AGENT
IN APIA JANUARY 11 AND REITERATED SUBSTANCE OF YOUR REFTEL (B),
I.E. THAT U.S. MATE VEHICLES SUCHA AS GOS LOOKING FOR NOT
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AVAILABLE IN HONOLULU OR ANYWHERE ELSE (NO CONVERTIBLES BEING
MANUFACTURED), AND THAT SHIPMENT OF ANY AUTOMOBILE FROM HONOLULU
TO PAGO PAGO WILL COST APPROXIMATELY \$6,000 APIECE.

4. CONSULAR AGENT TOLD EMBOFF THAT (A) GOWS AND UK HAD
"AGREED" TO PURCHASE TWO CONVERTIBLES FOR QUEEN'S VISIT; (B)
ASI FLYING TO HONOLULU JANUARY 14 TO SEARCH FOR APPROPRIATE

VEHICLES AND IF THEY NOT AVAILABLE THERE WILL GO ON TO LOS ANGELES;
(C) ASI HOPES TO DISCUSS AIRLIFT OF VEHICLES WITH CINCPAC;
(D) VEHICLES MUST BE IN APIA BY END OF JANUARY; AND (E) SUBSTANCE
OF PARA 3 WILL BE PASSED TO ASI (WHO THEN OUT OF COUNTRY)
BUT IT IS LIKELY ASI WILL STILL PROCEED TO HONOLULU/L.A.

5. COMMENT: THE FOREGOING IS PROVIDED AS BACKGROUND SHOULD ASI
ATTEMPT TO CONTACT YOU OR OTHERS AT CINCPAC REGARDING THE VEHICLES.
WE HAVE UNDERTAKEN NO RPT. NO COMMITMENT IN THIS MATTER. IN FACT,
WE HAVE ENDEAVORED TO MAKE BLEAKEST POSSIBLE CASE THAT WE CAN BE
OF ANY SUBSTANTIVE ASSISTANCE WHATSOEVER. WHETHER OR NOT MESSAGE
HAS PENETRATED ASI AND OTHERS IN GOWS, HOWEVER, IS OPEN TO QUESTION.
SHOULD ASI CONTACT YOU, I SUGGEST YOU REPEAT AGAIN THE STATUS
OF THE UNAVAILABILITY OF NEW U.S. MANUFACTURED CONVERTIBLES,
THE REQUIREMENT THAT MAC BE REIMBURSED AT COMMERCIAL
RATES (WHICH ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE OF PANAM) AND THAT NO RPT. NO
USG FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SHIPMENT THESE VEHICLES. TO
THE EXTENT WE CAN BE HELPFUL WITHIN FOREGOING GUIDELINES
WE SHOULD BE, BUT WE ARE NOT RPT. NOT ON THE HOOK ON THIS ISSUE.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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